

---

COUNTY COUNCIL  
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

---

By: The Council President at the Request of the County Executive

---

Subject: A Resolution by the Montgomery County Council Supporting Participation in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign.

Background

1. A scientific consensus has arisen that Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and other greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere will have a profound effect on the Earth's climate.
2. Scientific evidence indicates that global warming is already beginning, with the 1990's and 1980's being the hottest and second hottest decades in recorded history.
3. Based on scientific evidence, the United States has pledged along with 160 countries under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions.
4. Energy consumption, specifically the burning of fossil fuels, e.g.: coal, oil and gas, accounts for more than 80% of U.S. greenhouse gas emissions.
5. Local governments greatly influence their community's energy usage by exercising key powers over land use, transportation, building construction, waste management, and, in many cases, energy supply and management.
6. Local government actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency provide multiple local benefits by decreasing air pollution, creating jobs, reducing energy expenditures, and saving money for the County or City government, its businesses and its citizens.
7. The Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, sponsored by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, has invited Montgomery County, Maryland to become a partner in the Campaign.

### Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Resolution:

The County Council and County Executive of Montgomery County pledge to join with jurisdictions from all over the world in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, and as a participant in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign, Montgomery County pledges to:

1. Take a leadership role in increasing energy efficiency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions from municipal operations.
2. Develop a local action plan to be implemented over a three year period which describes the steps Montgomery County will take to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions; the plan will include:
  - a greenhouse gas emission analysis and forecast, to determine the source and quantity of greenhouse gas emissions within the jurisdiction;
  - a CO<sub>2</sub> or greenhouse gas emission reduction target; and
  - a strategy for meeting the jurisdiction's greenhouse gas reduction target, consisting of new and existing measures and policies that when implemented will achieve the greenhouse gas reduction target.